



## ***Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes***

### ***Navan Municipal District***

#### ***Ordinary Meeting***

***10:00 am, 21<sup>st</sup> January 2015, Navan Civic Offices***

An Meára, **Councillor Sinéad Burke**, presided.

**Councillors Present:** Shane Cassells, Francis Deane, Wayne Forde, Jim Holloway, Joe Reilly, Tommy Reilly.

**Officials in Attendance:**

**Director of Service:** Tadhg McDonnell

**Meetings Administrator:** Claire King

**Senior Engineer:** John McGrath

**Senior Executive Engineer:** Fiona Beers

**Administrative Officer:** Alan Rogers

**Executive Engineer:** Ronan McEnroe

**Assistant Staff Officer:** Rose McManus

**Clerical Officer:** Edita Zolotuchina

**Others in attendance:** Richard Donagh, Assistant Engineer, Water Services

### **1 Confirmation of Minutes**

#### **1.1 Confirmation of minutes of Ordinary meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2014.**

The Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2014 were adopted on the proposal of **Councillor Sinéad Burke** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Forde**.

### **2 Matters arising from the Minutes**

There were no matters arising.

### **3 Expressions of Sympathy and Congratulations**



## ***Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes***

Sympathy was extended to:

- Kieran Maguire, local photographer, on the death of his mother, Evelyn Maguire.

Congratulations were extended to:

- The staff working on the Gateway Scheme for their work in Navan.

### **4 Statutory Business**

#### **4.1 Disposal of land in accordance with Statutory Notices circulated pursuant to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001.**

This was approved on the proposal of **Councillor Tommy Reilly** and seconded by **Councillor Joe Reilly**.

#### **4.2 To discuss the 2015 Schedule of Municipal District Works.**

Tadhg McDonnell introduced John McGrath, Senior Engineer, Fiona Beers, Senior Executive Engineer and Ronan McEnroe, Executive Engineer to the meeting, all of whom are now part of the Transportation Operations Section.

John McGrath outlined the responsibility of both Transportation Operations and Transportation Design & Strategic Issues. He outlined the new structure being established across the six Municipal Districts, with Fiona Beers, Senior Executive Engineer for Navan and Kells Municipal Districts and Ronan McEnroe, District Engineer being the contact for operational issues within the Navan Municipal District. Alan Rogers, Administrative Officer has also been assigned to Transportation Operations.

He referred to Circular LG 27/2014 / FIN 21/2014, which was circulated to Councillors at the January meeting of Meath County Council. The Schedule of Municipal District Works will outline the works to be undertaken in the Municipal District during 2015 and will include the activities that were included in the former roadworks programme in addition to other operational activities, such as street cleaning, and other departmental activities, such as housing maintenance and repair. He outlined the process to be taken in preparing the Schedule of Municipal District Works and confirmed that Ronan would meet with Councillors in the coming two weeks to discuss the programme of works and any issues with a view to adopting the Schedule of Municipal District Works at the February meeting. Reference was also made to the different funding streams available, including government grants and the discretionary funding available at Municipal District level.



## ***Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes***

Matters raised by Councillors included:

- The need to ensure proper supervision of works;
- The amount of funding allocated to Navan Municipal District as a result of boundary changes and national and local funding allocations;
- The number of housing estates in Navan with poor roads infrastructure and possibly requiring attention to underground services – it was confirmed that some work had been undertaken on a footpath survey but that a condition survey of estates would be considered;
- The need for a multi-annual programme for works in estates based on areas prioritised as a result of assessment and with funding allocated to ensure a minimum standard is achieved;
- The possibility of selecting one estate per annum to complete works needed;
- The inclusion of works arising from Motions adopted at Municipal District meetings – it was confirmed that works would be included based on priority and best information available.

The Cathaoirleach and Councillors thanked John for attending and for his presentation.

### **5 Notice of Question**

#### **5.1 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane**

“With reference to the speed monitoring which took place during the month of July on three approach roads to Old Johnstown Village, will speed bars or traffic calming ramps be installed as a result of the information received from the report which was carried out?”

**A response was provided by the Transportation Section, as follows:**

*The Council propose to discuss the findings of Speed Monitoring carried out to date in Johnstown Village at the next Collision Prevention Meeting with the Gardaí.*

The response was noted.

#### **5.2 Submitted by Councillor Joe Reilly**

“Will the executive please provide the following information:



## ***Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes***

- On what legal basis did Meath County Council introduce a Residential Parking Fee of €50 for areas of Navan?
- On what legal basis has Meath County Council placed a €20 "administration fee" on the issuing of residential parking disks?
- Can clarification be provided as to whether the Executive can introduce policies and charges, without the consent/support of the elected representatives?
- Does the executive agree that the introduction of residential parking fees and passes for parts of Navan is a form of discrimination against residents simply because they reside in specific areas?"

### **A response was provided by the Transportation Section, as follows:**

*Meath County Council, having considered the concerns of the residents in Navan, has decided to defer any decision regarding an administrative charge for residents' parking permits until the full review of parking in the County is complete. Residents will be notified of this decision in the coming days. Any resident who has already paid the administrative fee for a parking permit will receive a full refund.*

The response was noted. However Councillor Joe Reilly pointed out that the response did not answer the specific queries raised. Alan Rogers referred to section 17 of the County Management Act, 1940 which differentiated between reserved and executive functions. Councillor Reilly sought clarification as to whether Councillors should have been consulted on this decision as part of the budget process, confirmed that he was seeking independent legal advice and requested that Meath County Council also provide legal advice supporting the action taken.

### **5.3 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde**

"Can the Executive please confirm as to whether the construction of a cycle lane around the loop in Blackwater Park has been considered or will be considered in the future?"

### **A response was provided by the Transportation Section, as follows:**

*The existing looped path is intended to be a combined footpath/cyclepath, 3m wide. Under the Phase 1 Contract, there were no markings/signage called-up to indicate the shared path.*

*In addition, please note that Sheet N12 (see NTA website) showing the Proposed Cycle Network for Navan in the NTA's GDA Cycle Network Plan shows an indicative route MG5 through the park (with links to Silverlawns). This route connects the proposed cycle routes NA1 along the R147 and NA6 along the Windtown Road.*



## ***Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes***

The response was noted.

### **6 Notice of Motion**

#### **6.1 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde**

“I call on the Executive of Meath County Council to implement traffic calming measures, including speed ramps, in the interests of public safety between Beechmount Vale and Beechmount Court, as there is a huge increase in traffic through this road.”

**Supporting information provided by the Transportation Section:**

*Meath County Council will carry out an assessment of this section of road in reference to traffic calming measures.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Wayne Forde** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

Councillor Wayne Forde highlighted how traffic in the area had increased as a result of motorists avoiding delays at the traffic lights on the Trim Road.

The motion was adopted.

#### **6.2 Submitted by Councillor Wayne Forde**

“I call on the Executive of Meath County Council to install a pedestrian crossing between Navan Pitch & Putt Club and Beechmount Vale on the Dan Shaw Road in the interests of public safety as this is a very busy residential area and it is needed for public access to the town and children going to school.”

**Supporting information was provided by the Transportation Section, as follows:**

*Meath County Council will examine this section of road in reference to a pedestrian crossing.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Wayne Forde** and seconded by **Councillor Francis Deane**.

Councillor Wayne Forde highlighted the issues at the location and, in response, Tadhg McDonnell pointed out that in order to install traffic calming measures, certain standards have to be met at these locations.

The motion was adopted.



## ***Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes***

### **6.3 Submitted by Councillors Francis Deane and Joe Reilly**

“That Navan Municipal District formally writes to the planning authorities in relation to traffic movement outside Beaufort College and Scoil Eanna to ensure a pedestrian footpath and pedestrian crossing facility is installed when Beaufort College is in the process of constructing a new set-down area within their campus.”

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Sinéad Burke** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Forde**.

A discussion followed on the size of the schools in the area and the growth projections for the student population and the role of the developer and the local authority in terms of adequate infrastructure provision for developments such as this.

The motion was adopted.

### **6.4 Submitted by Councillor Francis Deane**

“I call on members present to support this motion to have free parking in place in Navan during the last seven days before Christmas going forward from 2015. From 2009 to 2013 this was the case but unfortunately in 2014 there was much confusion amongst retailers and consumers. Replacing the initiative from 13th to 18th December 2014 was unsuccessful.”

#### **Supporting information was provided by the Transportation Section, as follows:**

*The dates for free parking for 2014 were agreed at the November 2014 Navan Municipal District meeting and were advertised across all media (Meath Chronicle, Websites, Social Media, LMFM etc. ) and on large signage on all approach roads to the town. Free parking formed one element of Navan's overall Christmas Campaign.*

*In response to the Motion, the Executive propose the following dates for free parking for 2015: -Saturdays 6th, 13th & 20th December and Monday 21st -Thursday 24th inclusive (total 7 days free parking), but also note the need for consistency across the county & dates should be agreed amongst the three towns.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Francis Deane** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Forde**.

A discussion followed on the need for clarity on the approach to be taken and the issues experienced as a result of the changed dates in 2014. Alan Rogers provided the background to the decision, the need to look at different models in future years and the need to achieve consistency across the county. It was agreed that the options and



## ***Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes***

issues would be considered and that Councillors would be consulted in advance of a decision taken at the November 2015 meeting.

The motion was adopted.

### **6.5 Submitted by Councillor Jim Holloway**

“That Meath County Council will eliminate the right of way at the walkway between Nos. 42 and 43 Ferndale, Navan due to the amount of anti social behaviour and nuisance associated with the use of this alleyway.”

#### **Supporting information was provided by the Planning Department, as follows:**

*Ferndale Estate Navan is not in the charge of Meath County Council and remains private property in the ownership of McDermott Homes Ltd. The Taking in Charge process has been initiated and a list of remedial works has issued to the Developer McDermott Homes Ltd. Following the TIC of the development Transportation may consider such a request.*

The motion was proposed by **Councillor Jim Holloway** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.

Councillor Jim Holloway agreed that this will be revisited when the estate is taken in charge.

The motion was adopted.

## **7 Correspondence**

It was confirmed that a letter of acknowledgement had been received from the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform in relation to a request for information on funding for the provision and installation of CCTV in Navan. A substantive reply would be provided to Councillors when received.

## **8 Any Other Business**

**8.1** Councillor Francis Deane suggested that, as part of future Christmas campaigns, small Christmas trees be installed on roundabouts at the RoundO, Canon Row and Circular Row.

**8.2** Councillor Jim Holloway asked that the flooding at Spicers be considered as part of the



## ***Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes***

Schedule of Municipal District Works.

- 8.3** Councillor Wayne Forde raised the issue of the site owned by the HSE and adjacent to Our Lady's Hospital, which he intended to raise with the Minister for Health at a meeting in the coming week.
- 8.4** Councillor Shane Cassells raised the following issues:
- 8.4.1 Highlighted the large crowd that attended Páirc Tailteann on Sunday, the positive impact on local businesses and asked that Meath County Council consider how it might assist the Meath County Board in its plans for the redevelopment of the facility;
  - 8.4.2 The provisional itinerary for the visit of the 2014 Rose of Tralee to Meath on Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> January;
  - 8.4.3 Requested an update on the anti-social behaviour issues being experienced in Beechmount Estate.
- 8.5** Councillor Joe Reilly requested that a letter be issued to Meath County Board and the Gardaí in relation to traffic management during major events and request that traffic management plans be extended to include Claremont, where problems had been experienced last Sunday.
- 8.6** Councillor Sinéad Burke informed the meeting that Navan had officially launched the 'Town of the Month' competition on RTE's 'The Today Show' on 20<sup>th</sup> January.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:**

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**An Meára**